

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE CHARTER OF THE NOAA SCIENCE ADVISORY BOARD

ESTABLISHMENT

The Secretary of Commerce approved the establishment of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) Science Advisory Board (SAB) on August 15, 1997. The Board was initially chartered under the Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2, on September 25, 1997, with the General Services Administration's (GSA) concurrence. The Secretary has determined the Board's continuance is in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed by law on the Department.

OBJECTIVES AND DUTIES

1. The SAB will advise the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere (Under Secretary) on strategies for research, education, and application of science to operations and information services, so as to better understand and predict changes in the Earth's environment, and conserve and manage coastal and marine resources to meet the Nation's economic, social, and environmental needs.
2. The SAB will advise the Under Secretary on other matters upon request.
3. The SAB will submit reports to the Under Secretary.
4. The SAB will function solely as an advisory body, and will comply fully with the Federal Advisory Committee Act.
5. The SAB will conduct laboratory, cooperative institute, and program reviews, as requested.

MEMBERS AND CHAIRPERSON

1. The SAB shall not exceed 15 members, appointed by the Under Secretary to assure balanced representation among preeminent scientists, engineers, educators, and science policy experts reflecting the full breadth of NOAA's areas of responsibility.
2. The Chairperson will be chosen by the Under Secretary, and may be asked to advise the Under Secretary in the selection of other Board members from experts suggested by appropriate organizations (e.g., National Academy of Sciences, professional societies, university consortia, and NOAA line and program offices). The term of the Chairperson will be until the end of the selected member's term on the Board or sooner, at the discretion of the Under Secretary.
3. Members will be appointed for three-year terms, renewable once, and serve at the discretion of the Under Secretary. Vacancy appointments shall be for the remainder of the unexpired term of the vacancy, and shall be renewable twice if the unexpired term is less than one year.

Members whose terms have expired may remain on the Board until a replacement is appointed, at the specific request of the Under Secretary, and not to exceed one year beyond the original end date of the final term.

4. Members will be subject to ethical standards applicable to special government employees.
5. Members will be selected on a clear, standardized basis, in accordance with applicable Department of Commerce guidance.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROVISIONS

1. The SAB will report to the Under Secretary of Commerce for Oceans and Atmosphere.
2. The SAB will be staffed and coordinated through the SAB Executive Director's office located in the NOAA Office of Oceanic and Atmospheric Research.
3. The SAB will meet at least twice each year; additional meetings may be called as deemed desirable by the Under Secretary or by the Chairperson.
4. Members of the SAB will not be compensated for their services, but will upon request be allowed travel and per diem expenses as authorized by 5 U.S.C. § 5701 et seq.
5. The annual cost of operating the SAB is estimated at \$350,000, which includes two person-years for staff support. This is exclusive of the cost of operating subcommittees, task forces, and working groups.
6. The SAB may establish such subcommittees of its members as may be necessary, subject to the provisions of the Department of Commerce Committee Management Handbook.
7. The SAB may establish task forces and working groups consisting of SAB members and/or experts as may be necessary, subject to the provisions of the Department of Commerce Committee Management Handbook.

DURATION

This charter shall terminate two years from the date of its filing with the appropriate U.S. Senate and House of Representatives Oversight Committees unless earlier terminated or renewed by proper authority.

Chief Financial Officer and
Assistant Secretary for Administration

Date